

REMARKS

This application is the U.S. national stage of International Application No. PCT/US02/41182 filed December 20, 2002.

Claims 20-36 are presented for examination. Claims 1-19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 20-36 have been added. Claims 20 and 29 are independent. Favorable review is respectfully requested.

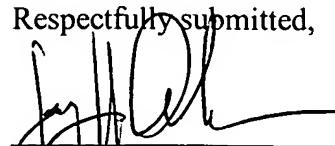
The specification has been amended to change section headings to conform more closely to U.S. practice.

Claim 20 recites the features of claim 1, claims 21-29 recite the features of claims 3-11, and claims 30-36 recite the features of claims 13-19 respectively, as those claims appeared in the international application. The claims presented here differ from their corresponding claims only with respect to formal matters and preferred U.S. practice. It is noted that the claims were amended in the international application by an Amendment under Rule 66.3 of the PCT (in which claims 2 and 12 of the international application were cancelled). The changes to the claims in that Amendment are reflected in the claims here presented.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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